TITLE: CHILD WELFARE MANUAL
SECTION 6:   RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
CHAPTER 1:   RECRUITMENT OF RESOURCE FAMILIES
ATTACHMENT B: ADOPTIVE PARENT THUMB-NAIL SKETCH
EFFECTIVE DATE:
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ADOPTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

If the following statements apply to you, you have a good start in considering a child with special needs.

a) You like children and enjoy the challenge of raising a family. If you are not a parent already, you may have had other kinds of exposure to children through volunteer work, teaching or your own extended family, that have given you an insight into the daily realities of being a parent.

b) You are a flexible person. You usually deal with frustration with patience and are open to changes in your expectations and life style.

c) You are able to view people for what they can accomplish, not what they cannot, and value them according to their own potentials.

d) You have had contact with people who have handicapping conditions.

Reprinted from Adopting the Older Child - Jewett, 1978

If the following statements apply to you, then you may need more time before you are ready to approach adoption of the child with special needs.

a) You see adoption of a child with special needs as a charitable act, because you feel sorry for or pity a child, or feel a duty toward him.

b) You think such an adoption is exciting, romantic or a good way to make a public or personal statement.

c) You feel that you couldn't raise an "ordinary" or normal child.

d) A child with special needs is second choice for you; the waiting time for children you would prefer is too long.

e) You place a high value on achievement and success, and have set similar kinds of goals for your children's future.

f) You view yourself as a person who does not react well to change and stress.

g) Your chosen life style is set and the adoption of a child with special needs would disrupt the activities that are important to you.

Reprinted from "Adopting Children with Special Needs", Joan McNamara, Kravir, 1975.

MEMORANDA HISTORY: